



JOHN LINDER

UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE FOR GEORGIA

Inside this issue:

Top Story	1
Introduction	
Internship Opportunities	2A
Flood Assistance	2B
Medicare Enrollment	2C
Supporting Our Troops	3A
Academy Nominations	3B
Services Online	
Seventh District Online Office Open 24/7	4A
Contact Information	4B
Key Addresses, Phone Numbers, Web Links	
Constituent Service	4C
Outreach Schedule (October– December)	

Dear Friend,

The August District Work Period has come to an end, and it was certainly a busy month. I spent my time traveling the district meeting with businesses, civic groups, rotary clubs, and other organizations. I talked with them about what Congress is doing, and listened to their thoughts and concerns about the issues that are truly important to them. I imagine it comes as no surprise to you, but the dominant topic of conversation was the health care debate. That issue was followed closely by the Cap and Trade legislation (or should we call it Cap and Tax).

I hosted town hall meetings in July, August and September. Thousands of participants expressed concern about the increased government intervention and the loss of their ability to make their own decisions. This kind of attendance was experienced by Members across the country. As we returned to session in September, there was a different feeling in the halls of the US Capitol. It is clear to me that the outpouring of participation in the policy making process spoke volumes to Members of Congress.

In the short time we have left this year, there will be tremendous pressure to rush through legislation that the American people have not had the time to read or understand. I will be fighting this dangerous haste, and I hope you will remain vigilant and continue to stay informed as the year moves forward. During this time, please use this newsletter as a resource. Inside you will find contact numbers, information on Military Academy Nominations, flood disaster relief, and much more.

My best,

INTERN OPPORTUNITIES

There are many wonderful opportunities for young people to become involved in and learn about their government. One such opportunity I am eager to offer is an internship in the Seventh Congressional District office. Over the past years, I have been impressed with the commitment, dedication and excitement that these fresh faces bring to the Seventh District offices.

These internship opportunities are available on a full-time basis in Washington, D.C., and on a full and part-time basis locally in the Gwinnett District Office. Any college or university student is eligible for an internship. If you or someone you know is interested in learning more about the political process and how Congress really works, I encourage you to contact my Washington Office at (202) 225-4272 or my District Office at (770) 232-3005.

FLOOD ASSISTANCE

In September, Georgia received an unprecedented amount of rain. The soil became saturated, and the rivers and creeks began to rise. Thousands of homes and businesses were damaged or destroyed from the flood waters. As a result, seventeen Georgia counties received a federal disaster declaration from President Obama.

If you need disaster assistance because your home or business sustained damage from the recent flooding, I would like to encourage you to file an application with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). You may either register online at www.DisasterAssistance.gov or call **800-621-FEMA (3362) (TTY 800-462-7585)**. According to FEMA, disaster assistance can include grants to help pay for temporary housing, home repairs and other serious disaster-related expenses. Low-interest disaster loans from the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) will also be available to cover residential and business losses not covered by insurance.

You may also want to contact the nearest Disaster Recovery Center (DRC) with any questions you may have. You may locate the nearest DRC by utilizing FEMA's online locator: <http://www.fema.gov/assistance/opendrcs.shtm>. Here are some other websites that you may find helpful:

www.fema.gov
www.ready.ga.gov

www.floodsmart.gov
www.georgiahousingsearch.org

www.gema.gov

MEDICARE ENROLLMENT

The open enrollment period for Medicare beneficiaries utilizing Medicare Advantage and Medicare Part D begins soon. From November 15 through December 31, 2009, beneficiaries can enroll in or make plan changes in the Part D prescription drug program.

For beneficiaries enrolling in Medicare Advantage (MA) plans only, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) states they can make one change in enrollment -- enrolling in a new plan, changing plans or disenrolling from a plan -- between Jan. 1 and March 31, 2010. However, the Medicare Advantage open enrollment period cannot be used to start or stop Medicare drug coverage, or to enroll or disenroll in a Medicare Medical Savings Account Plan.

Every year I am contacted by individuals seeking to alter their Medicare coverage who have missed the allocated timeframe. In order to avoid this undesirable scenario, please consider taking the time to evaluate the adequacy of your current health coverage. In an effort to make the process as publicized and available as possible, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) has sponsored events that will be held in communities nationwide throughout the Open Enrollment period. Many community-based events will be held that will offer individual counseling and support to beneficiaries and their caregivers during the Open Enrollment Period. You can find more information on these events at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/center/openenrollment.asp> or by calling 1-800-MEDICARE.



SUPPORTING THE TROOPS

As most of you are aware, we have many service men and women from right here in our communities who are deployed to far away places. These brave men and women are working around the clock to protect our freedom and keep all Americans safe. Many of these men and women have been in combat, been deployed multiple times and some have been injured in the line of duty. There are many opportunities for people to serve those who serve our country. For those of you looking for ways to support our troops and their families, I am including some links to assist you:

Soldiers Angels	http://www.soldiersangels.org
Patriot's Call	http://patriotscall.com
Our Military	http://www.ourmilitary.mil
Operation Home Front	http://www.operationhomefront.net

To the men and women who are so honorably and courageously serving our country, please know that my office is always available to assist you and your families. Whether you are stationed overseas or at home in Georgia, I have the personnel available to assist you with any questions or concerns you might have. I want to extend my warmest wishes to all those who have served and who serve today and their families who share in their sacrifice. Below are a few links to information, resources and benefits you may find helpful:

Georgia Guardsman	http://www.gadod.net
Military OneSource	http://www.militaryonesource.com
US Department of Defense	http://www.defenselink.mil



2009 MILITARY ACADEMY NOMINATION PROCESS

At this time of year many rising seniors begin considering the opportunities available to them after high school. One amazing opportunity available to students is attending one of our nation's service academies. Deciding to attend an academy is not a decision to be taken lightly, but I hope that all eligible high school seniors will consider contacting my office. If you are a rising senior residing in the Seventh Congressional District interested in attending one of our nation's military academies, consider submitting an application for a nomination to one of the following service academies before the October 16, 2009, deadline:

Military Academy at West Point, New York.
Naval Academy at Annapolis, Maryland.
Merchant Marine Academy at Kings Point, New York.
Air Force Academy at Colorado Springs, Colorado.

As I have said many times, one of the greatest privileges I have as a Congressman is the opportunity to nominate young men and women to the United States Service Academies. Every year approximately 80 students apply with my office for a Congressional nomination. It is their desire to obtain one of the greatest educations in the nation and to serve their country. By attending one of the academies, America's young men and women strive to become professional officers. Without a doubt, the hard work, dedication and commitment put forth by these individuals will highlight them as future leaders of our country.

SEVENTH DISTRICT ONLINE OFFICE

My online office at <http://linder.house.gov> is regularly updated in an effort to provide a central location to assist the citizens of the Seventh Congressional District. The purpose of the site is to host a true online office that provides resources and services to constituents, students, and those interested in legislative activities in Congress. This site allows me to continuously update information for you – empowering my constituents, improving our democracy and providing more efficient services.

The site is designed to enhance online communication between us by providing easy access to updated legislative and constituent services information. The site has prioritized regularly requested items so that they are more easily accessible for you, and I will continue to provide updated resources and access to services around-the-clock. Please feel free to stop by the site at any time and review the resources and services it has to offer.

CONTACT INFORMATION

I always welcome comments from the citizens of the Seventh Congressional District. Please make note of my mailing address and phone numbers, or send an email through my online office.

MAILING ADDRESS

1026 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515-1007

ONLINE OFFICE

<http://linder.house.gov/contactjohn>

GEORGIA OFFICE

(770) 232-3005
(770) 232-2909 (fax)

WASHINGTON, D.C., OFFICE

(202) 225-4272
(202) 225-4696 (fax)

OUTREACH PROGRAM

If you would like to meet with a member of my staff regarding difficulties you are experiencing with the Federal government, please contact my District Office at (770) 232-3005. My staff is also available to assist you at constituent outreach locations throughout the Seventh Congressional District at the locations and times below:

Barrow County

Piedmont Regional Library
189 Bell View Street
Winder, GA 30680

October 8 (10 am-12 pm)
November 12 (10 am-12 pm)
December 10 (10 am-12 pm)

Gwinnett County

Grayson Library
700 Grayson Parkway
Grayson, GA 30017

October 7 (4 pm-6 pm)
November 4 (4 pm-6 pm)
December 2 (4 pm-6 pm)

Gwinnett/Forsyth

Suwanee Library
361 Main Street
Suwanee, GA 30024

October 8 (5 pm-7 pm)
November 12 (5 pm-7 pm)
December 10 (5 pm-7 pm)

Newton County

Newton County Library
7116 Floyd Street, N.E.
Covington, GA 30014

October 21 (1 pm-3 pm)
November 18 (1 pm-3 pm)
December 16 (1 pm-3 pm)

Walton County

Monroe-Walton Library
217 West Spring Street
Monroe, GA 30655

October 21 (10 am-12 pm)
November 18 (10 am-12 pm)
December 16 (10 am-12 pm)